

<p style="text-align: center;">COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES Public Policy Committee Meeting December 20, 2006 Time: 2:00pm to 5:00pm Teleconference and DD Council Office</p>	
Call to Order – Opening Statements	Bob Jackson called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
Roll Call	<p>Members Present: Bob Jackson (Chair), Jim Baugh.</p> <p>On the phone: Shiloh Blackburn, Leslie Clement, and Theresa Wilding.</p> <p>Staff present: Marilyn Sword and Tracy Warren.</p> <p>Members Absent: Mary Bostick, Corey Barnard and Corinne Johnson.</p>
Perfection of Agenda/Announcements	There were no changes to the agenda and no announcements.
Approval of November 2, 2006 Minutes	<p>Members found a couple of typos to be changed in the November 2 minutes – specifically “deficient” be changed to “deficit.”</p> <p>Action will be taken at the January 07 meeting because of lack of a quorum early in this meeting.</p>
Review Action Items/Follow-up from November 2 Meeting.	<p><u>Self-Directed Services rules:</u> - Leslie said that she had given a report to the House and Senate Health and Welfare committees about the self-directed services rules.</p> <p>Representative Margaret Henbest asked a question about a self-directed services program in another state that had experienced significant Medicaid fraud. Leslie will follow up with contact to the Missouri DHSS director.</p> <p>Staff requested some discussion of possible “thorny issues” that may come up during committee hearings this legislative session.</p>

<p>Follow-up ➡</p>	<p>One issue is waiving criminal history background checks. Members discussed policy and how it would be used, what it means to “fail” a criminal history background check, the Medicaid provider exclusion list and how an individual will know if a potential community support worker is on the exclusion list or not. Medicaid has requested that all the Medicaid reform rules be presented as a package, so the self-directed services rules will just be a small part of larger report to the committees, however the questions from legislators will take longer and be more detailed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Council staff will write a summary of the self-directed services rules, make a plan for who will provide testimony at the legislature. ➤ Marilyn will call Kathie Garrett to see if she would testify in support of self-direction. ➤ We will also contact an individual who has signed up to self-direct their services through the My Voice My Choice option to provide testimony.
<p>Follow-up ➡</p>	<p><u>Family-Directed Services report:</u> Staff requested volunteers to help write an addition to the Medicaid report on family-directed services in Idaho.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bob Jackson will help Tracy draft a report and we will send it to Leslie for review. <p>Council staff said that parents have been contacting the Council to see how they can talk to their legislators in support of a parent-directed services program. Supporters of this need good information, but it is too early for</p>

<p>Action ⇒</p>	<p>them to be contacting their legislators because only the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee will be hearing the report this year, which is scheduled for January 17th.</p> <p>The committee discussed writing a legislative resolution that would give direction to Medicaid and others to work on developing family-directed services. This would help in the future when reporting progress as well as moving this issue along.</p> <p>Jim moved that the committee recommend to the full Council that we draft a concurrent resolution to support the next steps to implement a family-directed services model. Shiloh seconded. The motion passed.</p> <p><u>School-based Medicaid Services:</u> Medicaid has changed the school-based services section of rules to make it more clear how services provided in schools by providers should be billed and improve management. Service providers must have an agreement with the school to provide services and then bill the school for those services. The school will bill Medicaid. In this way, the schools provide the state funding match to federal dollars, instead of the match coming from the state general fund.</p> <p>Currently, developmental disability and psychosocial rehabilitation staff from agencies bill Medicaid directly for the services they provide to students in school. The changes to rule are to clarify billing procedure, not to limit access to services and not to waive choice in service providers.</p> <p>Leslie reported that most schools (90%) already have an agreement with some service</p>
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	<p>providers for school-based services, but the school is the Medicaid provider that bills Medicaid.</p> <p>Theresa moved that the committee recommend the Council support the changes to Medicaid billing policies for rehabilitation services in schools. Motion died for lack of a second.</p> <p>The group discussed that if all goes as planned, the rule change should not affect students getting services – that it is just a billing issue. But there are concerns about the unintended consequences. It depends on how school districts respond to the change. Access to and choice of services may get better or worse.</p>
Action ⇒	<p>The committee decided that the Council not take a position on this issue.</p> <p><u>Medicaid Reform Position Statement:</u> Jim provided a draft of the position statement to committee members. Some changes/additions were recommended. This document will give staff guidelines when speaking to policymakers. Staff will make suggested changes to the position statement for Council review.</p>
Action ⇒	<p>Jim moved that the committee recommend that the full Council accept the Medicaid reform position statement with the suggested changes. Shiloh seconded. Motion passed.</p> <p><u>Deaf Education Reform Update:</u> Staff reported about latest information from the Council for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The State Board of Education (SBOE) has made plans to have the Commission for the Blind develop standards for education for students</p>

<p>Action ⇒</p>	<p>who are visually impaired and will keep the oversight of deaf and hard hearing students within the SBOE. This plan is still in transition because of the new administration at the Department of Education.</p> <p><u>American Sign Language as a Foreign Language Concurrent Resolution:</u> This was formerly the ASL as a Foreign Language Act but will be presented to the legislature as a resolution with updated language.</p> <p>Jim moved to recommend that the Council support RS16558 the ASL as a Foreign Language Concurrent Resolution. Shiloh seconded. Motion passed.</p> <p><u>Recognizing the Unique Educational Needs of Children who are Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing:</u> This was formerly the Deaf Child Bill of Rights Act and with language changes is going to be introduced as a concurrent resolution – RS16559. The committee had concerns about line 31 of the RS that may lean towards supporting segregated programs. The members recognized that inclusion socially and developmentally in a general public education environment may be hindered when having to talk to peers through an interpreter and that students would benefit from being able to interact with their peers who are also deaf or hard-of-hearing.</p> <p>This new language is better than the “Act” language.</p>
<p>Action ⇒</p>	<p>Shiloh moved that the committee recommend the Council support RS16559. Jim seconded the motion. Votes in favor with one abstention. Motion passed.</p> <p><u>Lowering the school age to 4:</u> Staff reported that there will be a bill introduced this session</p>

	<p>that would allow schools to offer pre-school programs to children as young as 4. The committee recommended that staff monitor, with support, the legislation that is drafted.</p> <p><u>Accessible Electronic Information Technology Bill:</u> This bill requires rules that state agencies and other government entities develop accessible electronic information technology. It includes colleges and universities and there is an escape clause for undue burden. Jim reported that there may be some changes to the bill before it is introduced.</p> <p>Jim moved to recommend that the Council support, with participation, the Accessible IT Bill. There was no second, but discussion about probable support. Will be discussed at the January meeting.</p> <p><u>Update on Teen Early Intervention:</u> Staff reported that Representative LeFavour will be carrying this legislation and will be making some changes including the name. It will likely be related to the Community Resource Worker program of the past. Staff will continue to monitor. The committee suggested that the Council will likely support as we did with similar legislation last session.</p>
<p>• New Issues for Consideration</p> <p>Follow-up ➡</p>	<p>The group discussed the possible concurrent resolution about family-directed services in more detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Staff will draft a concurrent resolution on family-directed services for presentation to the Public Policy Committee to be voted on through email, then to the full Council at the January meeting. ➤ Staff will develop talking points. ➤ Staff and Council members will move

	the resolution through the session. The second week of February is the deadline to introduce new legislation.
Key Issues for the 2007 Session	The committee decided that the three issues for Council members to talk to legislators about for the 2007 session will be Disability History Week, American Sign Language as a Foreign Language and the Self-Directed Services rules.
Wrap Up:	<p><u>Review Action Items</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Draft a concurrent resolution to support the development of family-directed services model ✓ Recommend Medicaid Reform Position Statement with changes ✓ Support RS16558, ASL as a Foreign Language Resolution ✓ Support RS16559 recognizing the unique needs of children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing <p><u>Future Agenda Items</u></p> <p>Medicaid reform statement review. Accessible IT Bill review, discussion. Recommendations to Council.</p>
Adjourned	There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.